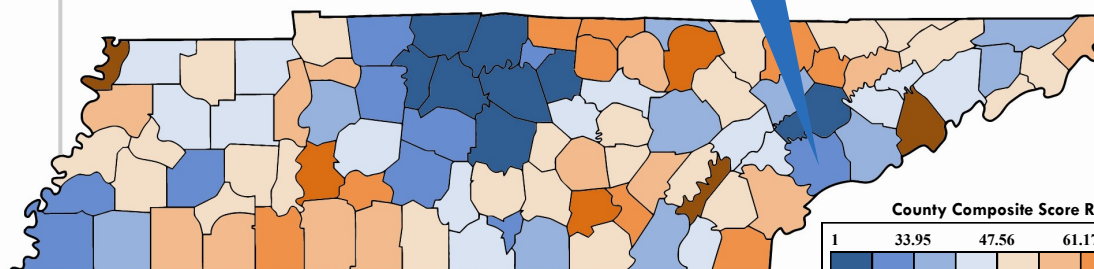


# The Status of Women in Tennessee Counties

## SNAPSHOT: BLOUNT COUNTY

2012



County Composite Score Ranges



Ranges defined as 0.5 standard deviations from the mean score of 47.56.

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Population (2010): **123,010**Pop. Density: **189/square mile**Seat of Government: **Maryville**Largest City: **Maryville**

COUNTY	RANK	INDICATOR SCORES & RANKINGS	DATA	RANK
Davidson	4	Employment and Earnings Composite	36.80	25 ▼
Sumner	5	Median Annual Earnings for Full Time Employed Females*	\$30,844	20 ▼
Robertson	6	Wage Gap (Female Earnings as a Percentage of Male Earnings)	73.25%	63 ▼
Knox	7	Female Labor Force Participation Rate (Ages 20-64)	71.2%	17 ▲
Smith	8	Female Unemployment Rate (Ages 20-64)	6.5%	18 □
Williamson	9	Percent of Management Occupations Held by Women	32.5%	66 □
Moore	10	Economic Autonomy Composite	24.88	7 ▲
Montgomery	11	Women-owned Businesses Percent of Total	25.7%	30 ▲
Trousdale	12	Percent of Females with 4-Year Degree or More (Age 25+)	19.5%	14 ▼
Blount	13	Percent of Females with High School Diploma or Equivalent (Age 25+)	85.4%	11 ▲
Madison	14	Female High School Dropout Rate	0.35%	42 ▼
Maury	15	Percent of Women Uninsured (65 and under)	13.4%	9 ▲
Shelby	16	Percent of Females Below Poverty Level	12.6%	6 ▲
Dickson	17	Percent of Female-Headed Households with Children in Poverty*	42.5%	34 ▼
Tipton	18	Rate of Pregnancy for Girls Age 15-19 per 1000*	41	53 ▼
Hamilton	19	<b>County Overview:</b> Women in Blount County are participating in their local economy at a high rate, earning increasingly competitive wages and have above-average access to affordable health care. Women also own and manage a larger share of the businesses in Blount than they did in 2000, and are achieving high levels of high school and college completion. Even with this progress, however, more women were unemployed as of 2010 than in 2000 and a significantly higher percentage of single mothers live in poverty. Lastly, women in the county continue to earn less than three-quarters the wages of their male counterparts.		
Humphreys	20			
Cumberland	21			
Washington	22			

Up  
from  
14th

Note: all figures are based on estimates formed from sample data and are subject to sample error and rounding.

\* The American Community Survey (ACS) is an annual demographic survey of the U.S. It provides the detailed demographic, economic and housing data that was once supplied by the Decennial Census Long Form. The ACS has a smaller sample so combines several years' data to produce multi-year estimates. Due to the small sample size there is an increased margin of error in many less populated counties for this indicator.

\*\* The 2005 County by County figures were based on a sample of girls age 10-19, whereas the 2012 report reflects the population of girls age 15-19.

† ACS sampling sizes are insufficient to publish certain figures for this category. An estimate was developed from the performance of surrounding counties for the purposes of creating a composite score.

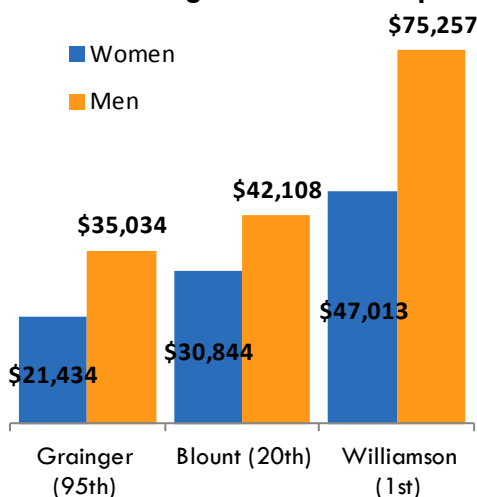
‡ Estimates are too unreliable or not available to be included in composite calculations. Any figure shown is an estimate for the reader's benefit only.

# The Status of Women in: Blount County

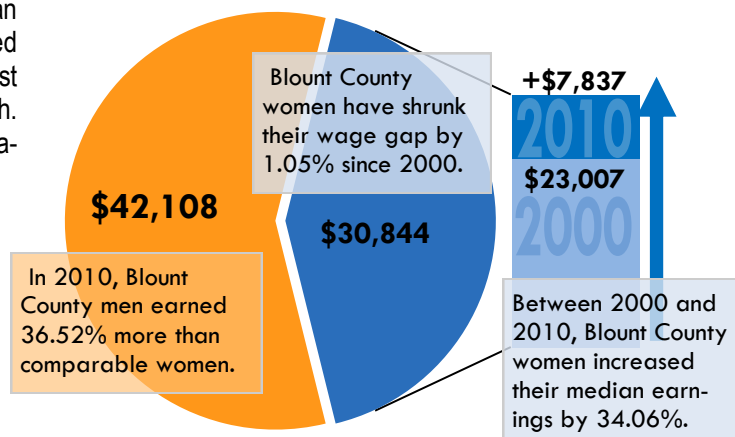
## ▼ Earnings

**B**lount County women displayed strong earning potential in 2010 with the 20th ranked median income in Tennessee. The county's women improved their overall earnings by roughly \$7,837 in the last decade, and nearly matched the male rank of 16th. The increase was over one-third, and exceeded inflation estimates during that period by over 7 percent.

### Median Earnings: Counties Compared



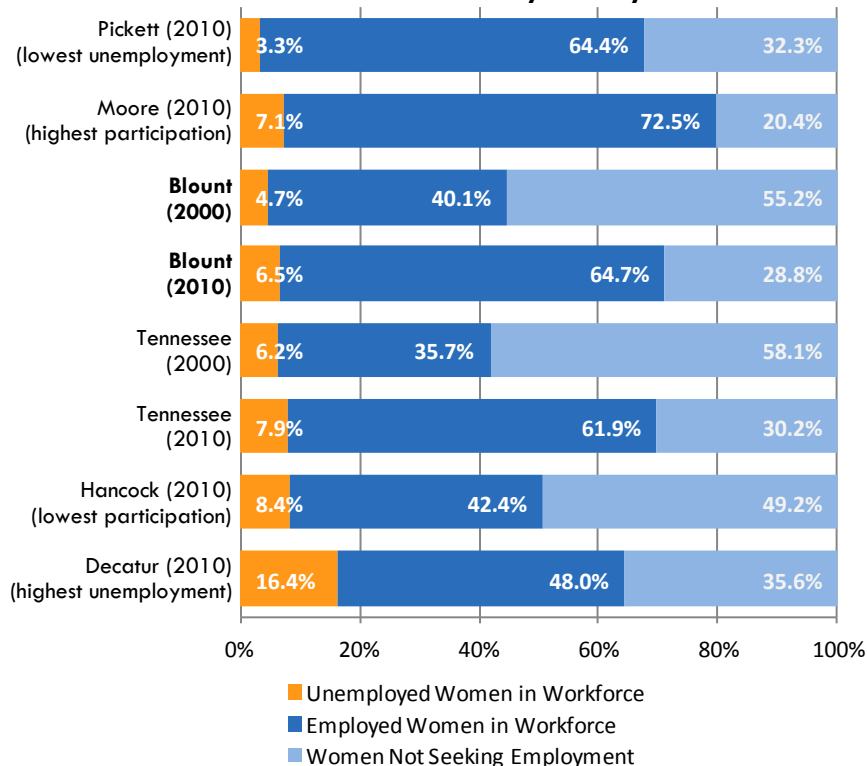
### Median Earnings and the Wage Gap, 2000-2010



**Similar** to many of Tennessee's high-income counties, women in Blount wrestle with a significant wage gap (ranked 63rd), earning just 73.25 percent of what comparable men earned in 2010—well under the state mark of 77 percent. While this figure improved from 27.8 percent in 2000, the increase was slim enough that Blount County's progress was surpassed by several of its peers statewide. Ultimately Blount fell 19 places in this indicator's rankings, from 44th at the beginning of the century.

## ▲ Employment

### Workforce Access for Women By County and Year

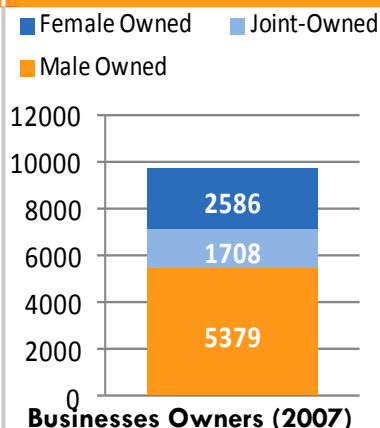


**Women** in Blount County have experienced solid growth in workforce participation and lower than average unemployment rates. Ranked 17th and 18th in those indicators, respectively, Blount women were entering the labor pool at rates slightly above the state average in 2010 and successfully attained employment at better rates than most of their peers throughout the state—including Blount County men, who were unemployed at a rate of 7.7 percent.

As shown to the left, the county's employment data was a close, but favorable match to the state's figures in both 2000 and 2010, and approached state leaders in both participation and employment levels.

Women with children under six years old were more likely than women without young children to be jobless and searching in 2010, at a rate of 8.9 percent.

# The Status of Women in: Blount County



**Business** ownership figures and the countywide share of management positions held by women both increased between 2000 and 2010—the former by over seven percent. This is particularly noteworthy considering that the most recent ownership data available is from 2007, showing that Blount improved from 30th to 15th in women owned businesses in just seven years. As a result, women were estimated to employ over 2,400 employees in the county.

The increase in female managers was less substantial, but sufficient to hold the county's rank of 66th.

## Women At Work

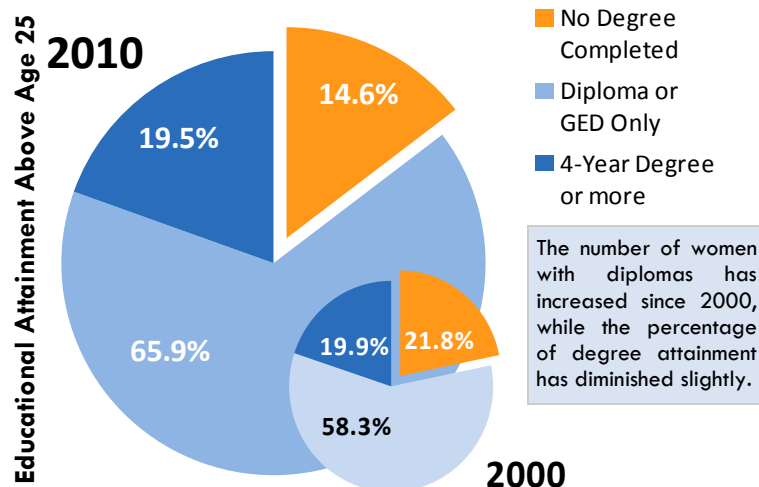
### Business Management

The incidence of women managers in Blount County swelled from 25.2% to 32.5% between 2000 and 2010.

### Business Ownership

Similarly, the percentage of women business owners in Blount County increased from 21.8% to 25.7% between 2000 and 2007.

## Education



**Overall**, the percentage of women in Blount County with neither a diploma nor a degree decreased by more than one-quarter between 2000 and 2010.

Interestingly, while many more women held diplomas in the county—increasing Blount's standing by one rank to 11th—women appeared less likely to move directly into college during that period. This was indicated by a small drop in the percentage of women in the county with four year degrees—a figure that increased in most counties across the state. This decrease resulted in a six place drop to the still-laudable 14th.

Dropout rates followed statewide trends and plummeted from 8 percent in 2000 to 0.6 percent.

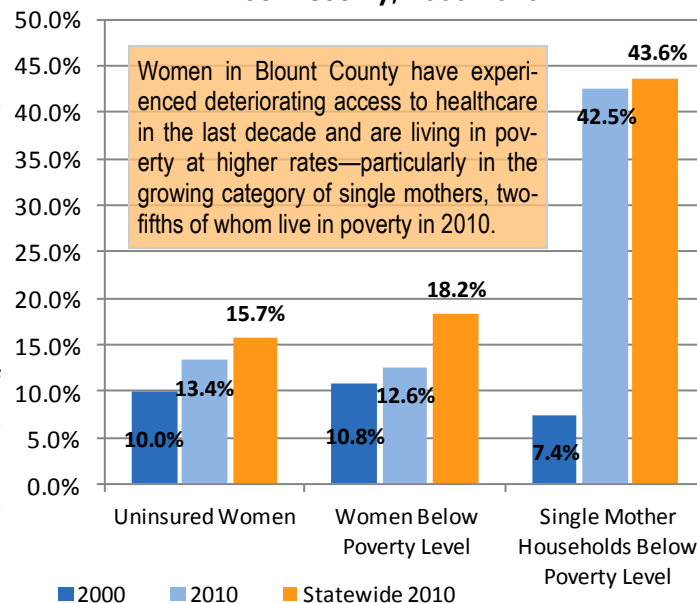
## Living

**Bolstered** by positive earnings figures and robust employment trends, most women in Blount County were insulated from the harsh decreases in living standards and health care access seen across Tennessee between 2000 and 2010. As a total population, only 1.8 percent more women live in poverty in Blount County than did in 2000 (ranked 6th). However, as seen throughout the state, single mothers in Blount were more than three times as likely to be living in poverty as women without children under 18 years old. The county ranked 34th in this indicator, down 12 spots from 2000, and slightly edged out the statewide figure of 43.6 percent.

Similar to overall poverty numbers, the percentage of women lacking health insurance increased in Blount, but at lesser rates than those seen statewide (ranked 9th).

The rate of teen pregnancy was estimated to be 41 out of 1000 girls in 2010, slightly higher than the state figure of 37.

## Health and Poverty Indicators for Women: Blount County, 2000-2010



# About the Council and this Report

The **Status of Women in Tennessee Counties** report offers an economic profile of women in each county of Tennessee and examines how women's rights and equality vary among the counties. The report presents data and overall rankings in two categories of women's economic status: employment and earnings and economic autonomy. Indicators of women's status in each category make up the composite rankings of the counties.

The employment and earnings section presents data on women's annual earnings, the earnings gender gap, female labor force participation rate, the female unemployment rate, and the percent of management occupations held by women.

The economic autonomy section includes information on the percentage of businesses owned by women, educational attainment levels, percentage of women with any kind of health insurance, percentage of women living in poverty and percentage of single female-headed households living in poverty, the female high school dropout rate and the teen pregnancy rate.

The **Tennessee Economic Council on Women** was created in 1998 by the Tennessee General Assembly to assess Tennessee women's economic status. The Council develops and advocates solutions to address women's needs in order to help women achieve economic autonomy. In setting its priorities, the Council selects issues that are timely and likely to result in positive changes for women.

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Visit the Economic Council on Women at [www.tennesseewomen.org](http://www.tennesseewomen.org)

SOURCES	
Employment and Earnings	
Median Annual Earnings for Full Time Employed Females	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Selected Economic Characteristics' *
Wage Gap (Female Earnings as Percent of Male Earnings)	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Selected Economic Characteristics'
Female Labor Force Participation Rate	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Employment Status'
Female Unemployment Rate	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Employment Status'
Percent of Management Occupations Held by Women	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Occupation by Sex and Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months for Full-Time, Year-Round Civilian Employed Population, 16 year and older'
Economic Autonomy	
Women-Owned Businesses Percent of Total	U.S. Census Bureau, 2007 Survey of Business Owners 'Statistics for All U.S. Firms by Industry, Gender, Ethnicity, and Race...' † ‡
Percent of Females with 4-Yr Degree or More (Age 25+)	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Educational Attainment'
Percent of Females with High School Diploma (Age 25+)	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Educational Attainment'
Female High School Dropout Rate	Tennessee Department of Education, 2011-2012 School Year
Percent of Women Uninsured (65 or under)	U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Health Insurance Estimates
Percent of Women Below Poverty Level	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months'
Percent of Female-headed Households with Children in Poverty	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months of Families' *
Rate of Pregnancy for Girls 15-19 (per 1000)	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Fertility' *

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